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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

## SKIRMISH REPORTED AROUND MUKDEN

### Russians Lose Five Officers and Forty Soldiers.

## JAPANESE OUTFLANK RUSSIANS

### State of Siege Not Renewed in Manchurian Cities by Czar's Men—Japanese Cruisers Captures Dutch Vessel Loaded With Coal.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 18.—General Kuropatkin, telegraphing yesterday to Emperor Nicholas reported an attempt of a strong Japanese detachment of infantry, cavalry and artillery to cut off the column of General Mitschenko's cavalry Jan. 14, as the latter was about to retire northward.

The Japanese, under cover of a mist, outflanked the Russians. A battle ensued. The Russian cavalry inflicting losses on the Japanese at short range and then retiring. The Russian losses were five officers and 40 men killed or wounded.

General Kuropatkin also reported the return of a Russian patrol after blowing up the railroad and destroying a mile of telegraph 2 miles north of Ta Tchekiao.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 18.—The government has not renewed the state of siege in Manchurian cities at the opening of the new year, civil law in such places replacing military rule. The Russian papers protest against the imputation that General Mitschenko's cavalry violated Chinese neutrality, even if, of which there is at present no evidence, they crossed the Liao river above New Chwang, claiming that a small strip on the west bank is distinctly reserved as included in the sphere of hostilities.

While the daring cavalry raid on the line of the Japanese communications was welcomed as a heavy augury of the operations of the new year, the general staff does not give encouragement to the idea that it was a precursor of a serious Russian movement.

## Japanese Capture Dutch Vessel

Tokio, Jan. 17, 2:30 p. m.—A Japanese torpedo boat destroyer captured the Dutch steamer *Wilhelmina*, which was carrying Cardiff coal to Vladivostok in the Tsushima straits, Monday and brought her to Sasebo. A first class armored cruiser is being constructed at the naval docks at Kure.

## THREE SUMMER HOTELS BURN

### Fire at Rockaway Beach Destroys \$200,000 Worth of Property.

New York, Jan. 18.—Three summer hotels and six cottages of summer residents were burned at Rockaway Beach today, causing a loss of \$200,000.

The hotels were the Waldorf, Germania and Columbian. The largest of these was the Germania, which had 100 rooms. None of the hotels was occupied except by caretakers. The blaze started in the Waldorf and before fire apparatus could be summoned it seemed as though the beach for a long distance would be swept clean of hotels and cottages. Hope of saving the Waldorf was quickly abandoned, and efforts were made to save the other two hotels, but the heat was so intense that the firemen could only fight the blaze from a distance.

## Embezzler Gets Ten Years.

Washington, Jan. 18.—James M. A. Watson, a clerk in the auditor's office of the district government, who was accused of embezzling \$75,000 and recently convicted on two indictments involving \$12,826, was today sentenced to ten years' imprisonment in the penitentiary. The court overruled his motion for a new trial.

## Couldn't Blow Safe Open.

Lafayette, Ala., Jan. 18.—The Bank of Lafayette was entered by robbers last night. The vault door was blown open and the burglars tried to blow open the safe, containing about \$20,000, but failed. No money was secured.

## KILLED BY MEXICAN BANDITS.

### Wealthy Man Murdered by Half-Breeds in Mountains.

Chicago, Jan. 18.—Ira A. Sanger, a relative of Mrs. George M. Pullman, of Chicago, has been slain by Mexican half-breed bandits in the mountain wilds of Sinaloa, Mexico.

Robbery was the purpose of the murder. Mr. Sanger, who was well known in Chicago, although for the greater part of his life a resident of Colorado, had been in the northern section of Mexico along the Texas border for three years interested in mining and ranches. His companion in these ventures was George L. Stewart, of Chicago, who has just reached El Paso, Tex., with news of the murder. The victim probably was ambushed, Mr. Stewart reported.

Mr. Sanger was well to do, having property and investments worth, according to the El Paso estimate, between \$40,000 and \$80,000. He usually carried a considerable sum of money with him, but Mr. Stewart declares he had but a small amount at the time of the attack.

Mexican rurales were sent out after the murderers. Mr. Sanger was about 35 years old.

## WILL ESTABLISH LOAN OFFICES

### Retail Clerks' Association to Protect Members from Sharks.

Chicago, Jan. 18.—Taking the cue from the Cigarmakers' union, the Retail Clerks' National Protective association will attempt to protect its members from loan sharks by the establishing of loan agencies at the headquarters in the various large cities, where the union men can get money without interest.

This plan has been announced by Max Morris, international secretary of the association, who has arrived from Denver, the headquarters of the union. The plan is to use the funds in the association's treasury for this purpose. If a member is out of employment and needs money he will state his case to the local officers of his union. His case will be investigated and if he is found worthy he will be given \$100 without interest for a stated period. If he does not pay back promptly he will be blacklisted and kept from working. The Retail Clerks have 1,050 locals and a membership of 50,000.

## SPY IN AN AMERICAN FORT.

### Private Soldier Missing, Together With Drawings and Papers.

Baltimore, Jan. 18.—Private Peter G. Emmett, a clerk at headquarters at Fort McHenry for several months, and now alleged to be an English spy, has been missing since last Wednesday evening. A number of drawings of the fort and other papers are also gone. The police suspect that he has left the country.

Emmett enlisted at Fort McHenry a little more than a year ago. He gave his residence as No. 28 South Greene street, this city, and said that his nearest relative was George Emmett, color sergeant of the Twenty-ninth infantry.

Emmett was at one time in the British army. He came into public notice some time ago when it was stated that a number of maps and drawings found on the street had been shown to him and identified by him as accurate reproductions of fortifications at Gibraltar. Emmett said that he had formerly been stationed at Gibraltar.

## TRASHY BOOKS THROWN OUT.

### Public Libraries of Brooklyn Will Exclude Objectionable Literature.

New York, Jan. 18.—Public libraries in Brooklyn have determined that neither the morals nor the literary tastes of their people shall be contaminated if they can prevent. Orders have been sent to the branch libraries, nine in number, that all questionable or trashy books shall be withdrawn from circulation and submitted at once to the director.

Those volumes considered positively bad and unfit for perusal in any home will be destroyed, excepting one volume in each instance, which will be preserved at the main library.

Other books which the director may consider suitable only for persons of mature ages will be held up for written applications.

## HOUSE WILL VOTE ON SWAYNE CASE

### Famous Impeachment Trial Is Now Before Congress.

## OTHER NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

### There Was a Tendency To Take Up the Swayne Case at Once—Favorable Report Is Made on New Shipping Bill.

Washington, Jan. 18.—The house agreed before proceeding with the Swayne impeachment debate today to begin voting on the articles of impeachment at 3:30 o'clock tomorrow.

Mr. Palmer endeavored to secure a vote at 4 o'clock today. Mr. Gillette (Cal.) objected on the ground that several members who had prepared to speak on certain phases of the case would be cut off. Mr. Gillette made a request for a vote tomorrow which was finally agreed to. First, however, Mr. Macon (Ark.) objected.

"It seems to me," he remarked, "that the gentleman from California is trying to run this whole case himself and when I see that tendency, I always object."

He was induced not to insist on his objection.

Mr. Lacey occupied ten minutes in further discussion of the \$10 a day expense appropriation, drawing this conclusion that an impeachment ought not to be voted on this ground.

The house committee on merchant marine and fisheries today authorized a favorable report on the shipping bill reported to congress by the merchant marine committee.

The president today sent to the senate the following nominations:

Commissioner of immigration—Robert Watchorn, at the port of New York.

Surveyor general of Louisiana—Jas. Lewis.

Postmaster—James R. Carr, at Birmingham, Ala.

## BIG FIRE IN CRESCENT CITY.

### Handsome Club House Destroyed by Flames—Fire Chief Hurt.

New Orleans, Jan. 18.—The Athenaeum, the handsome club house and ball of the Young Men's Hebrew association in St. Charles avenue, the Clio Street Evangelical church and some surrounding property, were destroyed by a fierce fire early today.

M. J. Fass, steward of the club, is missing. Elbert Hubbard lectured in the hall last night to a large audience. Some hours after the stage burst in flames.

The fire spread rapidly and the loss on the Athenaeum and equipment is stated by President Newman to be \$70,000. Other losses bring the aggregate to \$100,000.

During the fire Chief O'Connor, while standing on a scaffold in the rear of the burning building, was knocked down by flying debris and painfully hurt. Later an examination by physicians of Chief O'Connor showed that his collar bone was broken and that his injuries were serious.

## Meads Guilty of Fraud.

Mobile, Ala., Jan. 18.—Ike L. Robertson, of Abbot, Ala., pleaded guilty to using the mails to defraud, and was remanded for sentence. His intended victims were the Putnam Manufacturing company, of Baxter, Tenn., and the Worthelmer-Swartz Shoe company, of New Orleans, to whom he sent orders for goods to be shipped to his pretended place of business at Abbot, Ala., where he claimed to be a dealer in dry goods, groceries, hardware and medicines.

## Prize Fighters Raided.

New York, Jan. 18.—A remark overheard on an elevated train by a detective led to a police raid early today on a hall in West Thirty-eighth street, where a prize fight was in progress. Thirty-six persons were captured, including Charles McNally, of Providence, R. I., and "Jack" Kenney, of this city, who are alleged to have been the principals.

## ADVANCE MONEY ON COTTON.

### Texas Bankers Will Loan Farmers \$25 Per Bale.

Dallas, Tex., Jan. 18.—Colonel E. S. Peters, president of the National Cotton Growers' association, stated tonight that he had received from a well known southern banking firm an offer to advance \$25 on every bale of cotton in Texas, Indian Territory and Oklahoma territory.

Inasmuch as the arrangements are not yet complete, Mr. Peters refused to divulge the name of the firm making the offer, but he declared that it was a thoroughly reliable and responsible banking institution of the south. The plan proposed is that the cotton shall be placed in the custody of trustees who will pay the money, and see that the cotton is stored in a warehouse acceptable to insurance companies. The cotton is not to be sold until the owner is willing.

Colonel Peters stated that the details would be arranged this week, and that at present the bankers were only figuring on whether the project would require \$12,500,000 or \$25,000,000.

## THREE YEARS IN PENITENTIARY

### Ex-Postmaster Must Serve Term for Forgery.

Mobile, Ala., Jan. 18.—The United States court of appeals, sitting at New Orleans has confirmed the sentence of ex-Postmaster Charles A. Piercher, of Choctaw Bluff, Ala.

At the last term of the United States district court, sitting at Mobile, Piercher was convicted of forgery in connection with some contracts for carrying the United States mails, and was sent by Judge Coulmin to three years in the federal penitentiary at Atlanta. In several similar cases, where a negro was the chief witness, he was acquitted.

In this case he was convicted on the testimony of M. G. Candee, a prominent merchant of Choctaw Bluff, who was shortly afterwards assassinated, an investigation clearing Piercher of any connection with the crime, he being on ball at the time.

He will be taken to Atlanta to begin serving his term.

## LARGE BLAZE AT JACKSON, GA.

### Only Good Work Saved Buildings of Public Square.

Jackson, Ga., Jan. 18.—Part of the business portion of Jackson is smoldering in ruins from a fire which broke out Monday afternoon from a defective flue in the Hotel Jackson.

The brick hotel and store rooms adjoining and the residence of the late Dr. R. G. Bryans, occupied by J. M. Allen, was totally consumed. The furniture of the hotel was partially destroyed. One store room contained among household goods, many valuable mementoes and keepsakes of Dr. Bryans and his Knight Templar sword, which was highly cherished by his daughter, to whom it had been presented. All is a complete loss. An other store room was packed with groceries of the Jackson Mercantile company.

It took the combined efforts of the citizens to save the buildings on the square.

## Request Reprieve for McCue.

Charlottesville, Va., Jan. 18.—John Lee and Tinsley Colman, of Lynchburg, and Burnley Sinclair, of Charlottesville, counseled for J. Samuel McCue, who is to be executed Friday for the murder of his wife, went to Richmond today to ask Governor Montague for a reprieve. A petition is being circulated here by George E. Walker, Sinclair's partner, asking the governor to grant a respite for such time as he thinks proper. Over 200 business and professional men have signed the petition. Mr. McCue asks this in order to arrange his business matters.

## Texas Vegetables Killed.

Waco, Tex., Jan. 18.—The cold weather of the past few days has killed all of the fall truck vegetables in central Texas and up and down the Brazos valley. Orders have been placed by local commission men for vegetables from south Texas. The cold was followed by heavy frost, which completed the work of destruction.

## NIEDRINGHAUS IS FULLY EXONERATED

### Finding of Committee In Favor of Republican Leader.

## HIS ACTIONS FAIR AND HONEST

### Representatives Casey and O'Donnell File a Minority Report—Niedringhaus Did Not Contribute \$21,000 to Republican Campaign Fund.

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 18.—The majority report of the committee on the Niedringhaus investigation was read in the lower house today in the presence of a large crowd. The findings of the committee exonerate Mr. Niedringhaus and say that his explanation of the contribution of \$21,000 attributed to him are satisfactory.

The report says in part: The action of Mr. Niedringhaus, so far as investigation of your committee is concerned, which investigation was full and fair, was honest and above criticism.

The report adheres to the declaration that the contribution was to the Republican city campaign committee of St. Louis; that Niedringhaus did not contribute \$21,000 to that fund, and that he filed no such statement with the recorder of deeds because he was acting treasurer of the city committee. It seems that as chairman of the state committee Niedringhaus filed a statement, including the \$21,000 which was properly credited to him, and that Adolph Busch guaranteed him \$2,500 and Otto Stifel guaranteed him \$3,250 of the said amount; that no money was contributed by brewers to influence legislation, and with explanations of Niedringhaus, in regard to this \$21,000, was satisfactory.

Representatives Casey, of Jackson, and O'Donnell, of St. Louis, Democratic members of the committee, filed a minority report, along the lines of the senate committee's report made yesterday. Casey moved to substitute the minority report for the majority report.

After the motion to adopt the minority report had been seconded by Representative Whitecotton (Dem.), of Monroe, a motion was made to have the Niedringhaus testimony read.

## All Opposition Withdrawn.

St. Louis, Jan. 18.—A special from Jefferson City, Mo., says: All opposition on the part of the Kerens forces to the election of Thomas K. Niedringhaus for United States senator to succeed Mr. Cockrell, has disappeared. Representative Grace, of St. Louis, one of the leaders of the movement against the Republican state chairman, declared at noon that the fight was at an end, and that he would second the nomination of Mr. Niedringhaus.

## AFTER CAMPAIGN BOODLERS.

### Missouri Officer Getting Evidence About Election Contributions.

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 18.—Circuit Attorney Arthur Sager has made a hurried trip here from St. Louis, caused, it is said, by developments in regard to the investigation into campaign fund contributions. When asked as to his official position and probable action in the matter he said: "I have only this to say: If the facts justify proceedings under section 7176 of the revised statutes of 1892, I will institute them."

The section 7176 to which Mr. Sager referred, provides that it shall be unlawful for any corporation to influence or attempt to influence the result of any election in the state or to procure the election of any person to a public office.

## Negro Freezes to Death.

West Point, Ga., Jan. 18.—Brown Mc Carden, a negro employed by the city, was found dead Sunday morning in the rear of Alford's saloon. The coroner's jury has decided that he was too drunk to get up from where he had fallen and as a result froze to death.